

1722

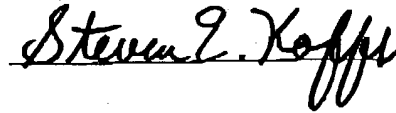
Attorney Docket No. D0932-00252RCE

Appl. No. : 09/967,224  
Applicant : Thomas Gilbert  
Filed : September 28, 2001  
Title : Apparatus and Method for  
Continuous Vacuum Forming  
Shaped Polymeric Articles

I CERTIFY THAT THIS  
CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING  
TRANSMITTED VIA FACSIMILE TO  
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE,  
FACSIMILE NO. 703-305-4257

ON: June 18, 2004

TC/A.U. : 1722  
Examiner : Thu Khanh T. Nguyen  
Confirmation No. : 2826  
Docket No. : D0932-00252



Mail Stop 313(c)  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX RECEIVED

JUN 18 2004

PETITIONS OFFICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 CFR. § 1.56 in connection with the above-identified application, which statement is being filed:

☒ Together with the present Request for Continuing Examination.

The Assignee wishes to submit a copy of a letter received from the legal representative of one of the inventors on June 17, 2004. Because this application was scheduled to issue within one week, the Assignee is submitting this Information Disclosure Statement (along with petition to withdraw from issue and request for continuing examination) and copy of the letter immediately, without waiting until an investigation of all the pertinent facts and circumstances is completed. The Assignee will continue to investigate, and will advise the Examiner if any additional information subject to the duty of disclosure is discovered.

Consistent with Applicant's obligations pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, the following requirements have been met:

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☒ No separate requirements are needed.

☒ No additional fee is required.

☐ **Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(c)**

The fee of \$180.00 for submission of an IDS under § 1.97(c) as set forth in § 1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

☐ **Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(d)**

The fee of \$180.00 for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(d) set forth in § 1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

☐ **Certification Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)**

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; or
- ☐ No item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**Provision of Copies of References**

- ☐ Copies of cited references which are U.S. Patents or U.S. Patent Application Publications are not required for this application, which has a filing date after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55, 5 August 2003).

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☒ A copy of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

☐ Partial Translations of References are enclosed herewith and form a part hereof.

☐ A copy of the European Search Report from a corresponding or related EPO application is enclosed herewith.

☐ A copy of the International Search Report from a corresponding or related PCT application is enclosed herewith.

**Identification of Prior Application(s) In Which Listed Information Was Already Cited And For Which No Copies Are Submitted Or Need Be Submitted**

☐ This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior U.S. Application No(s). The following references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Office in the prior application(s) and therefore are not required to be provided in this application:

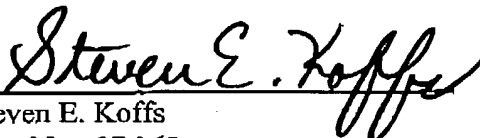
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1679. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is attached.

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any excess payment which may be associated with this communication to our deposit account 04-1679.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 18, 2004

  
Steven E. Koffs  
Reg. No.: 37,163  
Attorney For Applicants

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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.88. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

***If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.***